

story, and, indeed, the wisdom of all traditions, to guide us wisely on our Journey.

RUSSIA'S G-8 PROBLEM

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, this summer Russia will assume the rotating leadership position of the Group of Eight nations for the first time. I have expressed my concern repeatedly about the democratic deterioration in Russia and I believe that, unless the Russian leadership makes significant democratic progress, its continued membership in the G-8 should be blocked. Since Senator LIEBERMAN and I first expressed this view in a resolution we submitted in 2003, I have heard similar sentiments from Senate colleagues and individuals outside the Congress. Many observers across the political and ideological spectrum are concerned by Russia's retreat from core democratic principles.

President Vladimir Putin recently delivered an address aimed at reassuring the world that he takes democracy seriously. And while a number of the passages were welcome, others displayed a view of history and of Russia's role in the world that is simply astonishing. I would like to share with my colleagues today's Washington Post editorial that makes this point in detail.

Moscow's commitment to democracy and the rule of law is a vital element of America's relationship with Russia, and with Russia's ties to various multilateral institutions. I hope that the Russian leadership might see that its national interests lie in cooperation, not competition, with democratic countries. I also hope that Russia will change many elements of its policy toward smaller neighbors. Russia has based Russian troops in Georgia and Moldova without the consent of those countries, thereby undermining their sovereignty and violating international law.

If the Kremlin persists in persecuting Mr. Putin's political rivals, cracking down on the free media, and intimidating countries along Russian borders, I believe that Russian chairmanship of the G-8 is entirely inappropriate. Again, I recommend to my colleagues the Washington Post editorial I submit for the RECORD.

I ask unanimous consent that the editorial be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

[From the Washington Post, Apr. 27, 2005]

MR. PUTIN'S VERDICT

What was "the greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the century"? The rise of Nazi Germany? The spread of genocide as a tool of state power? Some might say it was the crushing of a host of nations by the totalitarian Soviet Union, at the cost of millions of lives. But not Russian President Vladimir Putin. For him, the greatest catastrophe was not the Soviet Union's rise but its collapse—an event that freed 14 of those nations, from

Latvia to Kyrgyzstan, from Moscow's domination. "The old ideals were destroyed," Mr. Putin lamented during his annual state-of-Russia address on Monday.

Most accounts of Mr. Putin's speech focused on the passages intended for Western consumption: his claim that "the development of Russia as a free and democratic state" is now his highest priority; his assurance to Russian and foreign business executives that their investments will not be seized by rapacious authorities, despite the state's recent confiscation of the country's largest oil company; his announced plans to strengthen political parties and make the state-controlled media more independent.

Yet the former KGB officer's nostalgia for the former Soviet empire seemed as telling as any of his promises. So did his denunciation of the "disintegration" of Russia before he came to power, which he defined as the "capitulation" of granting autonomy to Chechnya and the "unrestricted control over information flows" that allowed private business executives to operate newspapers and television networks. Mr. Putin has reversed both of those liberalizations—in Chechnya's case, by means of an ongoing war that has killed tens of thousands.

The Russian president has a short-term interest in burnishing what even he must recognize as a tarnished image. Early next month he is due to host numerous world leaders, including President Bush, in a celebration of the Soviet victory in World War II. This summer Mr. Putin is due to take over the rotating leadership of the Group of Eight, a club of industrial democracies in which Russia, an increasingly autocratic state that ranks 97th in the world in per capita gross domestic product, is glaringly out of place.

As Mr. Putin acknowledged Monday, his strategy for restoring Russian greatness depends heavily on his ability to attract Western capital and to maintain partnerships with the European Union and the United States.

But Mr. Putin would like to achieve these goals while consolidating the Kremlin's restored diktat and reviving what he called "the Russian nation's civilizing mission in the Eurasian continent." That's why the best measures of Mr. Putin are not speeches but actions. One important test will be his handling of neighbors such as Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova, which have embraced democracy and rejected Mr. Putin's neoimperialism. Will he adjust his approach to those countries, and withdraw unwanted Russian troops from Georgia and Moldova?

Another comes today at the trial of Mikhail Khodorkovsky, the entrepreneur who built the Yukos oil conglomerate and used it to help finance Russia's liberal democratic opposition. For daring to behave as if Russia were the free and capitalist-friendly country that Mr. Putin describes, Mr. Khodorkovsky was arrested and subjected to a show trial, even as his company, Russia's most modern, was broken up.

Today he will receive his verdict; prosecutors have requested a prison sentence of 10 years. The outcome ought to tell the Bush administration and other Western governments something important about a leader who would set the agenda for the world's advanced democracies.

HONORING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS SLAIN IN THE LINE OF DUTY

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I am proud to be an original cosponsor of a resolution currently before the Senate

commemorating law enforcement officers slain in the line of duty. Every day, men and women all across our nation put their lives on the line to protect our citizens, our families, and our communities. Having served as Attorney General for the State of Colorado, I know first hand how dedicated our law enforcement professionals are, and I strongly believe that one of our Government's most important priorities is supporting these men and women—not only by providing them with the resources they need to get the job done, but by publicly recognizing the truly unparalleled work they do each and every day.

While we frequently commend law enforcement officers for their willingness to put their lives on the line for the safety and security of our citizens, and while we are right to do so, it is still unfathomable when one of these men and women does make the ultimate sacrifice. It is unfathomable that those who volunteer for such noble work, as well as the families who support them, should pay such a price.

Next week, I will be attending a law enforcement memorial event in Colorado. Like the resolution my colleagues and I are submitting today, this annual event commemorates those law enforcement officers slain in the line of duty. This year, we will remember the lives and work of two Colorado law enforcement officers killed in the past year: Deputy Travis Sass of the Larimer County Sheriff's Office, and Deputy William Truesdale of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office.

In memorializing Deputy Sass, Deputy Truesdale, and others like them across the country, we should remember them not for the tragic way they died, but for the noble way they lived—risking their own lives to protect others. That is why the resolution my colleagues and I are submitting today is so important. As difficult as it is to accept that their lives have been lost, it is imperative that we always remember the contributions they made, and that our dedicated men and women in law enforcement continue to make each and every day.

ICE AGE FLOODS NATIONAL GEOLOGIC TRAIL

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, today, I join my colleagues Senators CANTWELL, CRAIG, MURRAY, and SMITH, in support of S. 206, the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail Designation Act of 2005.

Thousands of years ago, Glacial Lake Missoula broke through its ice dam, releasing cataclysmic floods that forever changed the terrain of Montana, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. This natural phenomenon is responsible for the unique beauty of western Montana. However, few people know the history behind our rugged landscape.

The Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail Designation Act of 2005 designates a trail, primarily public roads and highways, from Missoula, Montana

to the Pacific Ocean, following the path of the great floods. Through this legislation, the National Park Service is responsible for coordinating public and private sector entities to present the story of the ice age floods to the public.

Many folks in my great State of Montana, including members of the Glacial Lake Missoula Chapter of the Ice Age Floods Institute, look forward to working with the National Park Service in a joint effort to educate the public. Additionally, designation of the Ice Age Floods Trail provides a tremendous opportunity for tourism and economic development in Montana.

I am also pleased S. 206 takes into consideration the concerns of local citizens and private property owners by limiting Federal land acquisition to 25 acres. These acres will be used only for administrative and public information purposes. As always, it is important to me that private property rights are respected and private property owners do not feel threatened by Federal land acquisitions.

I look forward to working with my Senate colleagues to pass this important piece of legislation for not only Montana but the entire Pacific Northwest.

HOSPICE CARE

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Tallahassee Democrat, Mar. 28, 2005]

HOSPICE OFFERS PATIENTS EXPERT, COMPASSIONATE CARE (By Jack D. Gordon)

Watching the Terri Schiavo case unfold, we have gotten an education that many would no doubt rather not get. Through the news media, we've learned the mechanics of feeding tubes, the importance of advance directives and living wills. We've tried to understand the difference between a persistent vegetative state and a coma.

What we haven't really been educated about is the hospice care of Mrs. Schiavo. Lurking dangerously close to the surface of Schiavo controversy, quietly simmering, is the false and dangerous illusion that hospice is a place that hastens death, that it and those who do hospice work are in some way accomplices.

Sure, we have gotten a glimpse of Woodside Hospice in Pinellas Park—we've watched the protestors outside, we've seen photos of the family huddling inside, we've learned that it's where Mrs. Schiavo's feeding tube was removed. But for too many, Woodside Hospice is still one of those mysterious places where people go to die.

Yet hospice isn't "a place" at all. Hospice is a philosophy of care focused on pain relief and symptom management, and hospice is care given mostly in people's homes. It can also be provided in a nursing home, assisted living facility, a hospital, and—or, as in Mrs. Schiavo's case—in an inpatient hospice facility.

No one is ever forced to use hospice care. People either choose hospice care themselves

or their health care surrogate, designated as responsible for their best interest, makes the decision. A physician outside of hospice is also involved. He or she must certify that the patient's illness is terminal and that life expectancy is six months or less.

Hospice clinicians are experts at providing comfort in the final months, weeks, days, hours and minutes. In many cases, there is time and opportunity to address family, spiritual and psychological concerns with hospice professionals, who work in teams that include physicians, nurses, social workers, physical therapists, and clergy.

It is not usual for those under hospice care to outlive their life expectancy of six months or less. In a study conducted by the University of South Florida, it was found that persons with cancer who received hospice care lived an average of one day longer than the same patient, by age, gender and diagnosis, who were cared for in acute care facilities such as hospitals.

Our ignorance of hospice isn't so surprising. On our nation's health care timeline, it's a relative newcomer, but it has been gaining in use each year. The first U.S. hospice, an inpatient facility, opened in 1974. In 1978 there were about 1,000 people in the United States who died under hospice care. In 1983, it officially entered the mainstream when it became a Medicare benefit. By 2003, 885,000 people died under hospice care. This year, close to a million people in the United States—or one-third of all who die—will die under hospice care.

Despite its monumental growth, there has been no widespread government outreach effort around publicizing the benefits of hospice care. Hospice physicians and nurses, in the midst of new technologies, therapies, drugs and procedures, march on, quietly accepting what no one to date has successfully escaped—death. They do this by helping the terminally ill die dignified deaths free from artificial life support or ineffective treatments. They employ the latest methods to relieve pain and control symptoms, but their mission is not to cure. Admittedly, in our culture that rejects illness and aging, that's tough medicine for many to swallow.

No matter what your opinion of the Schiavo case, be happy that Mrs. Schiavo is being cared for by people who have helped thousands of people experience a gentle and caring end. And know that the hospice in your community will not be making the decision of whether you will live or die, but if you should become seriously and terminally ill and choose hospice, know that the nation's more than 40,000 hospice workers are committed to the highest quality comfort care under medical guidelines.

JAMES MONROE

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I am pleased today to recognize James Monroe, a Virginian patriot, on the 247th anniversary of his birth and honor his service to our Nation as a soldier, a diplomat, a legislator and as the fifth President of the United States of America. As the Nation draws closer to the celebrations being planned to honor President Monroe's 250th birthday, I rise today to honor his undeniable legacy.

James Monroe, born April 28, 1758, in Westmoreland County, was born, raised and educated in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Foregoing his studies at the College of William and Mary, James Monroe joined the Williamsburg Militia in 1775 in defiance of the British

King. He served gallantly in the Continental Army on the battlefield at Harlem Heights, White Plains, Trenton, Brandywine, Germantown, and Monmouth, eventually rising to the rank of lieutenant colonel.

A student of Thomas Jefferson's after serving in the Revolutionary War, James Monroe was an adherent of Mr. Jefferson's principles of individual freedom and restrained representative government, which would guide him through 50 years of public service. Elected to the Virginia General Assembly in 1782, Monroe served in the Confederate Congress and in the first U.S. Senate before his first of two terms as Minister to France. He returned to his Virginia, and as many students of Mr. Jefferson have done since, served 4 years as Governor.

During Thomas Jefferson's Presidency, James Monroe returned to France and was essential in the negotiation of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. His foreign policy experience led James Madison to name him both Secretary of State and Secretary of War as the United States was once again pulled into war with Great Britain in 1812.

Elected President of the United States in 1816, Monroe's Presidency has long been referred to as the Era of Good Feeling. During this time he helped resolve longstanding grievances with the British, acquired Florida from the Spanish in 1819, signed the Missouri Compromise and renounced European intervention or dominion in the Western Hemisphere with one of our Nation's greatest foreign policy documents, the Monroe Doctrine.

In 1820, Monroe achieved an impressive re-election, losing only one electoral vote, reserving the honor of a unanimous election for George Washington alone.

My own family has strong ties to the legacy of James Monroe. My wife Susan and I enjoyed our wedding on the grounds of his home, Ashlawn-Highland, in Charlottesville where her family has worked for many years. In fact, part of Monroe's property in Albemarle County is now on the grounds of his teacher's great institution of learning, the University of Virginia and is respectfully referred to as Monroe's Hill.

The life of James Monroe is one that embodied virtue, honor and commitment during his accomplished life of public service. It is fitting that he would pass from this Earth on July 4, 1831.

It is with sincere admiration that I respectfully ask my colleagues to recognize James Monroe's 247th birthday as a reminder of his remarkable and magnificent leadership for the people of Virginia and the United States of America.

DAVID WILKINS NOMINATED AMBASSADOR TO CANADA

Mr. DeMINT. Mr. President, I rise today with bittersweet news for my